SHRI MARGARET ALVA: We do not have a scheme only for divorced or widowed women. We have issued guidelines and the State Governments have been responding well in providing relaxation in upper age limit for entry into Government jobs for divorced and widowed women. I would like to say that we have a number of programmes under which we train women for self-employment and this is particularly done by the Women's Development Corporations which we are funding jointly with the State Governments. We are providing infra-structural facilities for setting up training centres and providing the training which will help them to go into the new avenues of employment which are being generated. We are also helping them with programmes under NORAD and various other schemes. The details of these schemes have been circulated to the Members of Parliament. I will certainly be prepared to send to the hon. Member a set of the programmes.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Not only equal wages are not given to women workers, but on the contrary, in the textile mills of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, etc. the number of women workers who are working there has been reduced. Has it come to the notice of the Government? If so, what action are they taking?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Women do have the problem of retrenchment where new technologies and modern systems come into the organised sector as a whole.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: It is not a question of new technology.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am saying that this is the problem that we are facing. I can give you an example. Recently hundreds of women in the tobacco industry were retrenched in Karnataka and in Andhra Pradesh because the operation in which the women were really involved in cleaning of the tobacco leaves was mechanised. There was hue and cry from women in both these States saying that women have been thrown out without being provided alternative employment. We took it up with the State Governments. We have had an assurance that they will, jointly with us, launch a programme of training for alternative employment. There are problems. I am saying that this trend has been noticed and more and more women are being absorbed in certain new industries like electronics.

We are having training programmes for women so that they are able to get absorbed into new industries and so that they have new avenues of employment which are being generated.

Teaching of ancient Indian sciences

*408. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to introduce the teaching of the Ancient Indian Sciences of Astrology, Palmistry, Numerology etc. in the educational institutions;

(b) whether Government have any plans to encourage research on these subjects based on the works of ancient Indian experts; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) In the Sanskrit Universities and Vidyapeethas run by the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, courses relating to Ancient Indian literature and sciences are taught. The National Policy on Education 1986 also visualises adequate support for research in Indology. It also suggests efforts to delve into India's ancient fund of knowledge and to relate it to contemporary reality. The Programme of Action proposes the establishment of an international Institute for Indology and classical Languages to take up programmes for this purpose.

(c) The establishment of the proposed institute of Indology and Classical Languages is included in the VII Five Year Plan. However, the details of the establishment have not yet been finalised.

श्री अजीत जोगी : मान्यवर, हम सब को ज्ञात है कि प्राचीन भारत में विज्ञान की बहुत सी विद्याएं इतनी अधिक विकसित थी फिर भी आजकल हम उनको अपनी शालाओं, विद्यालयों और विश्वविद्यालयों में नहीं पढ़ाते हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि इन विद्याओं का अध्यापन संस्कृत महाविद्यालयों और संस्कृत से संबंधित संस्थानों में ही हो रहा है। मेरा प्रश्न पूछने का आशय यह था कि क्या नई शिक्षा नीति में और क्या हमारी हर शाला, हर विश्वविद्यालय, ह महाविद्यालय में हम अपने प्राचीन भारत का वह ज्ञान जिसको विस्तृत कर दिया गया है जिसकी ओर आजकल ध्यान नही दिया जा रहा है, उसे शामिल करने के लिए कोई प्रयास करेंगे ?

श्री एल०पी० शाही : श्रीमन्, प्रयास उस दिशा में हो रहा है, लेकिन उसके पहले उसकी नींव मजबूत करनी होगी, क्योंकि बहुत सी बात हम भूल गए हैं, उससे अलग हो गए हैं, इसलिए यह आवश्यक है कि पहले संस्कृत से संबंधित जो संस्थान हैं उनको मजबूत किया जाए। वहां से किताबों के प्रकाशन या उसके अनुवाद और दूसरे यह सोचा जाए उसके बाद ही रेगुलर पढ़ाई में लाया जा सकता है। इस दिशा में तिरूपति मे एक केन्द्रीय संस्कृत विद्यापीठ थी जिसको अभी डीमड यूनिवर्सिटी की संज्ञा देकर विकास किया जा रहा है। राष्ट्रीय संस्कृत संस्थान के अन्दर 7–8 ऐसे विद्यापीठ अभी चल रहे हैं । लाल बहादुर शास्त्री संस्कृत संस्थान में वेदशाला बनाई गई। अभी 25 से 28 मार्च तक हम राष्ट्रीय वेद विद्या प्रतिष्ठान का स्वरूप कैसा हो इस पर विचार करने के लिए देश के सभी ... (**व्यवधान**)

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : आप तो दूसरी बात कह रहे हैं... (**व्यवधान**) यूनिवर्सिटी के बारे में बात कीजिए ?

श्री सभापति : चतुरानन जी कहते हैं कि सिर्फ आप यूनिवर्सिटीज के बारे में बात कीजिए। (**व्यवधान**)

श्री पर्वतनेति उपेन्द्र : हरेक मिनिस्टर को एक-एक आस्ट्रोलोजर है।

श्री सभापति : तो आपका सवाल है कि सब के लिए एक-एक अप्वायंट कर दिया जाए फिर मैम्बर्ज के साथ ? ... (**व्यवधान**)

श्री एल० पी० शाही : तो जहां तक ज्योतिष का एक है गणित और दूसरा है फलित तो न्यूमरालोजी भी उसके अन्दर आ जाती है, ज्योतिष विज्ञान की पढ़ाई और उसको पढ़ाने की कोशिश हो रही है राष्ट्रीय वेद विद्या प्रतिष्ठान में वेद के अन्दर जो छिपा हुआ नालेज है उसको निकालने की कोशिश हो रही है। इसीलिए तीन दिनों का एक वर्कशाप जयपुर में संगठित हो रहा है और देश भर के संस्कृत के विद्वान तथा गणित के विद्वानों को बुलाया गया है विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों से और उनसे राय ली जा रही है वर्कशाप में कि इसका स्वरूप कैसा हो। इन लोगों की राय आ जाने के बाद हम आगे चलकर और भी विशेष रूप से बता सकेंगे कि इसका स्वरूप क्या होने वाला है और इस दिशा में हम क्या करने जा रहे हैं।

श्री अजीत जोगी : मान्यवर प्रश्न के "ब" हिस्से में यह उत्तर दिया गया है कि भारत विद्या के एक संस्थान की स्थापना सातवी पंचवर्षीय योजना में की जाएगी। 7वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना का बहुत बड़ा समय निकल चुका है और इस संस्थान की स्थापना के संदर्भ में कोई भी कार्यवाही प्रारम्भ नहीं हुई है । इसलिए मैं विशेष रूप से यह जानना चाहूंगा और कि यह संस्थान कहां स्थापित किया जाएगा, स्थापना कब तक हो जाएगी और इसके लिए क्या वित्तीय प्रावधान किए जा रहे हैं ? क्या स्थान का चयन हो गया है और क्या कोई कारगर कार्यवाही हो रही है अथवा केवल यह योजना में लिखा रह जायगा और संस्थान् स्थापित नहीं हो पाएगा ?

श्री एल० पी० शाही : श्रीमन्, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संस्था स्थापित करने के पहले यह आवश्यक है कि हम अपने राष्ट्रीय संस्थान को मजबूत करके उसके लायक बनाएं । यह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संस्था शुरू करें और बाहर से लोगों को निमंत्रित करें, उसके पहले हमारी अपनी तैयारी पूरी हो जानी चाहिए । इसलिए हम पहले राष्ट्रीय वेद विद्या प्रतिष्ठान की स्थापना में लगे हैं, उसके हो जाने के बाद दूसरे स्टेज पर इसको करेंगे ।

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Is the hon. Minister aware that some of the valuable Indian manuscripts from India had found their way into foreign countries, like India Library in London and also, perhaps, in Germany? Does he have a plan of getting some of these manuscripts back to be considered at this Pratishthan, and whether this institute at present is going to find methods of getting these manuscripts for our own studies and research?

SHRI L. P. SHAHI: Yes, Sir, we are aware of the fact that a large number of manuscripts from India were taken away by the Britishers during their 200 years of existence in India as the ruler or semi-ruler, and that has formed part of India Library in England. Right from the time of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, attempt was made to get back those manuscripts in India but the difficulty is that it has become part of the Commonwealth Library system and part of British Library system. We are now trying to take micro films of such books whose manuscripts are not available in India. Similarly, large number of books are also available in German Library and we are trying to have micro filming of such books which we do not have in India.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : माननीय सभापति महोदय, भारतीय ज्योतिष विज्ञान, सामुद्रिक शास्त्र, नैतिक विज्ञान की महत्ता विदेशों में भी मानी जाती है, जैसा कि मेरे साथी माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि विदेशों में अपनी भाषा में अनुवाद करके हमारी जो ज्योतिष-विद्या है, उसका ज्ञान वहां के विद्यार्थियों को दिया जा रहा है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जैसा उन्होंने अपने उत्तर में बताया कि भारतीय विद्याओं की पढ़ाई के लिए तो एक विद्या-पीठ तिरूपति में स्थापित किया गया है, तो क्या मध्य प्रदेश के संबंध में भी ऐसा विद्यापीठ स्थापित करने का कोई विचार चल रहा है ?

श्री एल० पी० शाही : सर, कोई प्रस्ताव आने पर विचार किया जायगा ।

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: The year before last, there was a conference of computer experts and Sanskrit scholars in America to consider importance of Sanskrit as the global computer language. Last year, there was a conference in Bangalore also where many computer experts arrived, and also a number of Sanskrit scholars, and it was decided that there should be a global computer language. May I know as to what progress has been made? Sanskrit Pratishthan has already started processing Sanskrit as the spoken language, demagogue. I want to know whether the Minister knows anything about these things.

SHRI L. P. SHAHI: Yes, there is a talk already going on, and certain discussions in newspapers also and also in some of the seminars that Sanskrit because of its capacity to prefix and suffix; can fit in the computer very well. But that is still at the initial stage.

श्री जसवंत सिंह : मान्यवर, मैं पूछना चाहूंगा कि भारत सरकार ज्योतिष में विश्वास करती है ? अगर नहीं करती है तो फिर पढ़ाई क्यों कराती है ?

SHRI L. P. SHAHI: It is not a question of Government of India believing or not believing. That is a source of knowledge and it is exhibited during Surya Grahna and Chandra Grahna when Jyotish forecasts and it does take place.

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: The stress of the question was on teaching of the subject in our institutions. I would like to know whether any university has taken it up.

SHRI L. P. SHAHI: Jyotish is being taught in some of the universities, and Sampoornanand Sanskrit Vishwa Vidyalaya, Varanasi is one; Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit Vishwa Vidyalaya Darbhanga is another.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

UGC scales for teaching staff of medical Colleges

*402. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that teaching staff of Medical Colleges in different States is eligible to get University Grants Commission's pay scales;

(b) if so, whether any instructions have been issued to State Governments to accept the demands of teaching staff working in different medical colleges in this regard; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Governments lay down the pay structure of their employees including teaching staff of medical colleges keeping in view their financial resources and other connected factors. The Central Government have no scheme in this regard.

Tata committee's recommendations to privalise AI and IA

*403 SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tata Committee's recommendations to privatise Air India and Indian Airlines to improve their operational efficiency and international competitiveness have since been examined; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) To develop a well integrated long-term perspective plan for the transport sector the Planning Commission has set up a Steering Committee for Transport Planning. For providing inputs to the Steering Committee, a Planning Group on Civil Aviation headed by Shri J. R. D. Tata was also set up. The findings and recommendations of this Group, including those relating to Equity participation by staff and others are under consideration of the Steering Committee for Transport Planning.

The report of the Steering Committee for Transport Planning has not been received by the Government.

डिग्रियों का नौकरियों से अलग किया जाना

*405. श्री रशीद मसूद : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने डिग्रियों को नौकरियों से अलग करने की योजना को क्रियान्वित करने का पहले ही निर्णय कर लिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्योरा क्या है ; और